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LENS 4

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Reader-as-Writer

Purpose: To explain how *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* can influence my own writing with its style, story, detail, and craft.

Audience: Classmates, students, writers.

Genre: Response to *Hugo Cabret*

Engagement: From evaluating how this book is styled, written, etc., I will be able to find ways to incorporate the work of Selznick into my own work further on in this semester.

The Invention of Hugo Cabret was masterful, impressive, and overall well deserving of its Caldecott Medal. The story is told through both pictures and words. This is a very creative way of telling it, which is both engaging and imaginative. Since it is so creative and engaging to the reader, I would like to incorporate it into my own work, using both text and pictures to tell the story. The story itself I very well put together, everything becoming intertwined in the end. For example, when reading about the ‘automaton’ machine in the museum attic that Hugo and his father were trying to fix, I had no idea it would end up being related to the old man with the toy booth where Hugo had to work to get his notebook back. Also the story line in the book where Hugo keeps the clocks in the station going so that the station manager thought Hugo’s uncle still worked there. I also liked how Isabelle had the key to the automaton, pulling her into the overall scheme of the story. This can inspire the way I write my own story by helping me see how to bring everything and everyone together through the story. In my own work, I could have all of the characters coming together in the end through the major conflict. I can also use pictures, as well as words, to tell the story. Overall, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* can inspire all writers, professional or not, to incorporate artistic and engaging style into stories of their own. I have benefitted profusely from evaluating this book and I am looking forward to writing my own story using tips from *Hugo Cabret*.